[26th September 1956

(c) & (d) Yes, Sir. The Government have sanctioned the establishment of a hand-made paper unit at Gandhigram, Madurai district, and it started functioning from 1st May 1956. Proposals for starting similar units at Mudabidri in outh Kanara district and in the Lower Bhavani Project area are under consideration of the Government. The Government have also sanctioned a grant of Rs. 5,000 to the hand-made paper unit at Vennar Bank, Tanjore, and have issued instructions for the purchase of paper produced by this unit for the use of the Government.

Steps for the removal of water scarcity in the City

* 227 *Q.*—SRI K. P. GOPALAN : Will the Hon. the Minister for Health be pleased to state the steps taken by the Government to remove water scarcity in the City of Madras during the months of April and May 1956?

THE HON. SRI A. B. SHETTY : There was no marked scarcity in April and May 1956. Supplies compared well with the previous two months and the corresponding periods in previous years.

SRI V. R. KRISHNA AYYAR : Since once in a way this kind of water scarcity occurs, will the Hon. Minister see that Madras is not left thirsty before he leaves?

THE HON. SRI A. B. SHETTY : The question of taking a quantity of five hundred million cubic feet of water from the Araniar Reservoir to the Red Hills Lake for augmenting the water-supply to the City is under consideration.

SRI A. M. RATHNASWAMY : What happened to the scheme for utilizing the Krishna-Pennar waters for augmenting the City water-supply?

THE HON. SRI A. B. SHETTY : This question should be addressed to my Hon. Colleague.

Construction of an air base in Ramanathapuram district

* 228 *Q.*—SRI N. K. PALANISAMY : Will the Hon. the Minister for Public Works be pleased to state whether the Government have made any representation to the Centre for the construction of an air base in the name of Katta Bomman in the Ramanathapuram district under the Second Five-Year Plan?

THE HON. SRI R. SHANMUGA RAJESWARA SETHUPATHI : No, Sir.

SRI N. K. PALANISAMY : May I know whether the Government will approach the Central Government now at least to have an air base in Ramanathapuram district in the name of Katta Bomman?

THE HON. SRI R. SHANMUGA RAJESWARA SETHUPATHI : The Government of India have stated in some other connexion that it would not be possible to open any new air base in the near future.

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[a] Expunged under orders of Mr. Speaker Announcement made in the House on 29th September 1956.